Promotion of Tourism in Orissa

1468. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have promised financial help for beautification of Sun Temple at Konark in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there are similar other beautification or development projects in hand or proposed to be taken up with Central assistance in the state; and

(d) if so, the schemes drawn up by Government for development of tourism in the State?

THE MINISTER OFTOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) It has been decided that Archaeological Survey of India will take up improvement works at Sun Temple at Konark.

(b) The improvement works include soft lighting of the temple and upgradation of sound and light show. Relocation of shops, tourist huts, restaurants, parking lots, etc. at one or two complexes at some distance from the temple is also proposed for improvement of environment around this famous monument.

(c) Improvement works are also proposed to be taken up at following sites:—

1. Ratnagiri
2. Udaigiri, Jaipur
3. Lalitagiri
4. Pathrajpur
5. Barabati Fort
6. Udaigiri Khandgiri Hills/Caves
7. Dhauli
8. Raghurajpur
9. Puri Beach
10. Chandrabhga Beach

(d) The details are being worked out by the concerned agencies.